

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

1731

In re application of:

Manfred DOMBEK

JUL 1 7 2001 E

Art Unit: 1731

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No: 8302

Appl. No: 09/775,638

Filed: February 5, 2001

For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR INCREASING THE

PERMEABILITY OF WRAPPERS OF ROD-SHAPED ARTICLES Atty. Docket No: 31512-168230

Customer No:



PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith. Attached is DE 42 18 266 and its counterpart GB 2 267 474.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guide lines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that

the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 17, 2001

Robert Kinberg

Registration No. 26,924

VENABLE

P.O. Box 34385

Washington, D.C. 20043-9998

Telephone: (202) 962-4800 Telefax: (202) 962-8300

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